

## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## COUNTY VET ALERTS PET OWNERS; 26 NEW PET FOODS RECALLED FDA Warns Consumers that Retailers May Still Have Recalled Food on Shelves

Menu Foods has expanded their recall by adding 26 new pet food products to the list because of concerns about potentially contaminated wheat gluten, County Public Health Veterinarian Dr. Mike Harrod warned pet owners today.

The County Veterinarian is alerting San Diego County pet owners to check the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Web site for an entire list of recalled pet food at <a href="www.fda.gov">www.fda.gov</a>. The new recall list includes brands such as Americas Choice Preferred Pet, Your Pet, Pet Pride, Laura Lynn, Nutriplan, Price Chopper, Publix, Stop & Shop Companion, Winn Dixie, and Nutro products.

"Pet owners need to continue to monitor Web sites and news media for the latest recalls," said Dr. Harrod. "Those who do not have access to the Internet or are not sure what's on the recall list may want to stay away from pet foods containing wheat gluten."

The FDA is advising pet owners that recalled pet food may still be found on the retailers' shelves. The FDA urges retailers across the country to be vigilant in removing all products associated with the pet food recall, which began on March 16, 2007. To verify the effectiveness of the recall, the FDA has conducted approximately 400 checks of retail stores across the country. Based on the checks, the FDA said they believe most establishments have removed the recalled product; however, some have not.

According to a Menu Foods news release, the company undertook an accounting of all recalled wheat gluten supplied by ChemNutra Inc. to Menu Foods. As the result of that review, Menu Foods has identified a single interplant transfer of the ChemNutra supplied wheat gluten, shipped from Menu Foods' plant in Kansas, to its plant in Ontario. This wheat gluten was subsequently used in the production of pet foods in December 2006 and January 2007. These newly identified affected foods have now been added to the recall list.

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